

DALLASTOWN WILDCAT INVITATIONAL

**700 New School Lane, Dallastown, PA 17313
717-818-0478 • WildcatInvitational@gmail.com
<http://WildcatInvitational.googlepages.com>**

Dear fellow coaches and competitors,

The Dallastown Area High School Forensics Team is thrilled to announce the 2009 Wildcat Speech and Debate Invitational, to be held on Saturday, October 31st at Dallastown Area Middle School. You and your team are cordially invited to join us for an action-packed day of competition in Policy Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Student Congress, Extemporaneous Speaking, Original Oratory, Oratorical Declamation, Dramatic Performance, Duo Interpretation of Literature, Oral Interpretation of Prose, and Oral Interpretation of Poetry—as well as three special supplemental events: Impromptu Speaking, Improvisational Acting, and Spontaneous Argumentation. We have been working hard to plan a tournament that will be a highlight of your team's fall schedule and that will provide both seasoned veterans and first-time novices with a fun and educational forensics experience.

Dallastown is located in south-central Pennsylvania, convenient to Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, and Scranton—therefore, the Wildcat Invitational offers a unique chance to compete against teams from across a much larger geographical area than is usually possible at a one-day tournament.

Our goal is to maximize the opportunities your team members will have to perform and learn, and to allow competitors to experience a wide variety of forensics events. To that end, all events except Policy Debate will be divided into two brackets, allowing students to quintuple-enter (two regular events per bracket, plus one supplemental event) and to vie for Individual Sweepstakes Awards. One distinctive feature of our schedule is that Student Congress, Public Forum Debate, and Lincoln-Douglas Debate will be included in the bracketed schedule—which means that Congress, PF, and LD contestants will have the rare opportunity to enter multiple events. All students, including policy debaters, will be able to enter a supplemental event, in addition to their regular event(s).

The Wildcat Invitational is also carefully designed to be a wonderful early tournament for students new to forensics. Separate novice finals will be held in any speech and debate events where numbers warrant, and all novice finalists will receive trophies. However, instead of being forced to spend the entire day watching only the performances of other students as inexperienced as they are (as is the case when novices compete in entirely separate divisions) the novice entrants will be divided evenly between all sections of their events in preliminary rounds, allowing them to observe and learn from older, more skillful competitors. Trophies will be presented to the top non-advancing novice contestants in all events without enough novice entrants for a separate final round. In an attempt to even further encourage both meaningful novice participation and diversification of students' involvement, the use of notes/manuscripts will not be prohibited in any event—even the traditionally memorized events such as DP, Duo, OO, and Dec. While memorization is strongly encouraged in these events—and students with memorized performances will surely see their preparation rewarded with improved scores—we believe that, at this early point in the season, it's far more beneficial for students to stretch themselves, give a new event a shot, and receive constructive feedback on substantive elements of the performance, than it is either to be so hung up on “cramming” that the spirit (and much of the educational value) of the event is lost, or to be discouraged from participating at all.

In addition to trophies for finalists, top novice awards, and debate speaker awards, both Individual Sweepstakes Awards and Team Sweepstakes Awards will be presented. The Wildcat Invitational also has a special tradition of presenting Outstanding Audience Member Awards to both students and adults. Teams of all sizes and experience levels have a real chance to earn public recognition for their hard work.

An instructional clinic for new judges will be offered before the start of the opening ceremony. This is a great opportunity for interested adults to learn the basics and become prepared to judge for your team confidently and capably throughout the season. Since many parents and teachers who would make wonderful judges feel hesitant to give it a try without a bit of formal training, you'll want to be sure to invite them to accompany your team to the Wildcat Invitational.

The Dallastown Wildcat Invitational truly offers something for everyone from near and far—novices and veterans; students and parents; large teams and small squads; schools with long-standing traditions of forensics excellence, and small budding programs. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us either by phone (717-818-0478) or e-mail (WildcatInvitational@gmail.com). We are so excited about what promises to be a fantastic day of speech and debate competition, and we can't wait to see each and every one of you on October 31!

Sincerely,
Stephanie E. Borger & Ryan M. Miller, Tournament Directors
and the Dallastown Area High School Forensics Team

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Event Descriptions

Except where otherwise noted, all events will follow the rules of the National Catholic Forensics League. For Oral Interpretation of Prose, Oral Interpretation of Poetry, and Public Forum Debate, the rules of the Pennsylvania High School Speech League will be used. Complete descriptions of each event and its regulations may be found at <http://www.ncfl.org/competition/competition.html> and <http://www.phssl.org/publications.htm>. Students in their first or second academic year of forensics competition may—but are not required to—enter the tournament in the novice division.

Debate Events:

Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate will be scheduled on the bracket system, giving debaters a rare opportunity for multiple-entry in speech events and/or Student Congress. LD and PF contestants MAY enter one or two speech events (including Student Congress) in Bracket A, but MAY NOT enter another event in Bracket B. Contestants in Policy Debate may not double-enter in any other regular speech or debate event. All debaters are also permitted to enter a supplemental event.

POLICY DEBATE: Teams will debate the 2009-2010 resolution, Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase social services for persons living in poverty in the United States. Each side will receive 8 minutes of prep time per round.

LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE (Bracket B): Lincoln-Douglas contestants MAY NOT enter a second Bracket B event, but they MAY enter Bracket A speech events. Since this is traditionally the first competition of the year for many teams attending the tournament, students will debate the **November/December resolution** which will be announced on October 1 at <http://www.nflonline.org/StudentResources/Topics> (NOT the September/October resolution about high school exit exams). Each debater will receive 4 minutes of prep time per round. All LDers looking for a second event are encouraged to enter Student Congress, as well.

PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE (Bracket B): Public Forum contestants MAY NOT enter a second Bracket B event, but they MAY enter Bracket A speech events. Since this is traditionally the first competition of the year for many teams attending the tournament, students will debate the **November resolution** which will be announced on October 1 at <http://www.nflonline.org/StudentResources/Topics> (NOT the October resolution about poverty reduction and environmental protection). All rounds begin with a coin flip: the winning team gets to decide EITHER which side they would like to advocate or which order they would like to speak in; the team which loses the flip gets to choose the other variable. Each side will receive 2 minutes of prep time per round. All PFers looking for a second event are encouraged to enter Student Congress, as well.

Student Congress:

(Bracket A AND Bracket B): Student Congress sessions will run during BOTH Bracket A and Bracket B, and Congress contestants may participate during one or both brackets. Students MAY enter a second speech event (such as Extemp) during each bracket. Because of the similar skill-sets involved, Extemp, LD, and PF competitors are especially encouraged to consider also entering Congress. Entries in Student Congress will NOT be counted when determining judging quotas. Students are encouraged to submit as many pieces of legislation as they would like. Bills and resolutions should be submitted via e-mail to WildcatInvitational@gmail.com. All legislation will be posted on the tournament website (<http://WildcatInvitational.googlepages.com>) as it is received. The tournament staff will supply extra legislation if an inadequate quantity is submitted. A separate novice final round will not be held in this event.

Speech Events:

*The speech events will be scheduled in two brackets. Bracket A events are Dramatic Performance, Oral Interpretation of Poetry, Oratorical Declamation, and Extemporaneous Speaking. Bracket B speech events are Duo Interpretation of Literature, Oral Interpretation of Prose, and Original Oratory. Public Forum Debate and Lincoln-Douglas Debate rounds will also take place during Bracket B. Student Congress sessions will be offered during BOTH Bracket A and Bracket B. Students may enter up to two events in each bracket (for a maximum total of four regular events). In addition to these regular events, each contestant may enter one supplemental event—either Impromptu Speaking, Improvisational Acting, or Spontaneous Argumentation. **Please note, Public Forum and Lincoln-Douglas Debate contestants MAY NOT enter a second Bracket B event, but they MAY enter either one or two speech events in Bracket A. Student Congress contestants MAY enter a second speech event during either bracket.***

DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE (Bracket A): Contestants will perform selections from published plays, scripts, or other fictional or non-fictional works of literature of either a dramatic or humorous nature. No props or costumes may be used. The time limit is ten minutes, including a brief introduction. While memorization is highly encouraged, the use of notes or manuscripts is not prohibited.

ORAL INTERPRETATION OF POETRY (Bracket A): Contestants will perform selections from published works of literature in poetic form; no drama or prose is to be used. All students are required to hold and read from manuscripts, and no props or costumes are permitted. The time limit is ten minutes, including a brief introduction.

ORATORICAL DECLAMATION (Bracket A): Each competitor will deliver a speech written by another person, rather than an original work. The time limit is ten minutes, including a brief introduction. While memorization is encouraged, the use of notes or manuscripts is not prohibited. This event is only open to novice contestants.

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING (Bracket A): Contestants will have thirty minutes to prepare a seven minute speech answering a foreign or domestic current events question. Computer retrieval devices will be allowed in the preparation room, but no internet access will be available. The use of notes is allowed. All extempers are especially encouraged to consider entering Student Congress, as well.

DUO INTERPRETATION OF LITERATURE (Bracket B): Each pair of students will perform a selection from a published play, script, or other fictional or non-fictional work of literature. Each performer may portray one or more characters, and no physical contact between the performers is permitted. No props or costumes may be used. The time limit is ten minutes, including a brief introduction. While memorization is highly encouraged, the use of notes or manuscripts is not prohibited.

ORAL INTERPRETATION OF PROSE (Bracket B): Contestants will perform selections from published works of literature in prose form; no drama or poetry is to be used. All students are required to hold and read from manuscripts, and no props or costumes are permitted. The time limit is ten minutes, including a brief introduction.

ORIGINAL ORATORY (Bracket B): Each competitor will present an original speech on a topic of his/her choosing not to exceed ten minutes in length. The speech must be the creation of the student who performs it. While memorization is highly encouraged, the use of notes or manuscripts is not prohibited.

Supplemental Events:

Our supplemental events were a highlight of last year's Wildcat Invitational for competitors, coaches, and audience members alike. In addition to being a whole lot of fun, these events provide a valuable opportunity for students to gain experience practicing fundamental forensics skills early in the season—without requiring any preparation prior to the tournament. Each competitor may enter one of the supplemental events: Impromptu Speaking, Improvisational Acting, or Spontaneous Argumentation. Following the last preliminary round of the regular events, a single supplemental preliminary round will be held. The top contestants who advanced to the finals in no more than two of their regular events will progress to the supplemental final round. Supplemental events will not be separated into varsity and novice divisions.

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING: Contestants will each select one of three possible speech topics. Each speaker will have a total of five minutes to divide between preparation and speaking.

IMPROVISATIONAL ACTING: Contestants will be assigned to pairs or small groups and will improvise scenes according to the directions and prompts they are given.

SPONTANEOUS ARGUMENTATION: In this event, the first contestant in a group gives an impromptu one-minute constructive speech in affirmation of a narrow topic, after which the successive students give one-minute alternating negative and affirmative rebuttals. The first competitor receives one minute of prep time; later contestants must respond immediately without preparation time. Students are ranked individually.

Entry Fees and Discount Packages

Since we wish to encourage all interested students to participate and to have the richest experience possible, there is no limit to the number of contestants a school may bring, and no cap on the number of slots a school may register in a particular event is imposed. Several discount packages are offered for students who enter multiple events.

REGULAR SPEECH EVENTS, CONGRESS, AND LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE: \$8 per slot for single-entered students

PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE: \$8 per debater (\$16 per two-person team) for single-entered students

SUPPLEMENTAL EVENTS: \$1 per slot for single-entered students

NOVICE DISCOUNT PACKAGE (2 regular events plus 1 supplemental event): \$8 per novice student

VARSITY “DOUBLES” DISCOUNT PACKAGE (2 regular events plus 1 supplemental event): \$10 per student

VARSITY “SWEEPSTAKES” DISCOUNT PACKAGE (3 or 4 regular events plus 1 supplemental event): \$12 per student

POLICY DEBATE: \$8 per debater (\$16 per two-person team)

Student lunches will be sold for approximately \$5.00 per person, and snacks will be available for purchase throughout the day. A complimentary luncheon, as well as other refreshments, will be served to all judges and coaches.

ALL CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO THE DALLASTOWN FORENSICS BOOSTER CLUB

Judging Requirements

SPEECH EVENTS: Each school must bring one adult speech judge for every **5 SPEECH SLOTS (or fraction thereof) entered in the bracket in which it has the most students entered**. For example, if you have 15 speech slots entered in Bracket A and 10 speech slots in Bracket B, you would need to register 3 speech judges. Judge quotas are determined by the number of slots, not the number of students—so a single student entered in two events counts as 2 slots, but a Duo team of 2 students counts as only 1 slot. Don't forget to encourage your school's first-time judges to attend the New Judges' Clinic at 7:45 AM.

PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE: For the purpose of calculating judging obligations, a Public Forum team **counts as TWO Bracket B speech slots**.

A limited number of Speech / Public Forum judges may be hired at a cost of \$30 per judge. Judges are assigned at the time of hire and unavailable to other teams, so hired-judge fees will be non-refundable after the registration deadline.

LINCLON-DOUGLAS DEBATE: Each school must bring one qualified adult Lincoln-Douglas judge for every **3 LD competitors (or fraction thereof)** entered.

A very limited number of Lincoln-Douglas Debate judges are available to hire at a cost of \$50 per judge. Please call to confirm LD judge availability before assuming that judging is still available to cover your slots. Judges are assigned at the time of hire and unavailable to other teams, so hired-judge fees will be non-refundable after the registration deadline.

POLICY DEBATE: Each school must bring one qualified adult policy judge for every **2 Policy Debate teams (or fraction thereof)** entered.

No Policy Debate judges are available for hire.

STUDENT CONGRESS: Entries in Student Congress **DO NOT** contribute to a school's judging quota.

SUPPLEMENTAL EVENTS: Supplemental events **DO NOT** contribute to a school's judging quota.

Registration Deadline and Change Fees

All teams must register by **Wednesday, October 28, 2009 at 6:30 PM**. If possible, please complete your entry forms online by following the link found on our tournament website at <http://WildcatInvitational.googlepages.com> (NB: there is no “www” in the URL). If you have difficulties with the online form, you may also e-mail your entry to WildcatInvitational@gmail.com or call 717-818-0478, but the form is likely to be easier for both of us.

From Wednesday, October 28 at 6:30 PM until Saturday, October 31 at 6:30 AM, an additional fee of \$5.00 per slot will be charged for any adds, drops, or changes to your entry. No fee will be charged to merely change the name of a contestant.

After 6:30 AM on Saturday, October 25, an additional fee of \$10.00 per slot will be charged for each add, drop, or change to your entry. \$5.00 will be charged for each name-change.

If you find that you need to adjust your entry in any way on the morning of the tournament, please call 717-818-0478 to report the changes before 6:30 AM. This will allow the tournament to begin—and end!—on time and prevent your team from being charged higher fees. Please do not wait until you arrive at the tournament to inform us of changes.

Schedule

REGISTRATION: 7:00 – 8:00 AM.

Please call 717-818-0478 to report any drops, adds, or changes to your entry by 6:30 AM.

NEW JUDGES’ CLINIC: 7:45 – 8:30 AM

All schools bringing judges who wish to attend the clinic should plan to arrive no later than 7:45 AM.

OPENING CEREMONY: promptly at 8:30 AM

All competitors, coaches, and judges must be present.

ROUND ONE: promptly at 9:00 AM

Contestants not present will be forfeit without delay.

AWARDS CEREMONY: approximately 7:00 PM.

Awards

FINALIST TROPHIES: Trophies will be presented to all finalists in each varsity and novice speech event, to all debate outround competitors, to the top novices in each event without a separate novice final round, and to the finalists in each supplemental event.

DEBATE SPEAKER AWARDS: The competitors in each debate event with the highest adjusted speaker points will be given speaker awards to recognize their individual excellence.

INDIVIDUAL SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS: Each varsity competitor who enters at least two regular events will be eligible for the Individual Sweepstakes Awards, which will be given to the students who demonstrate the highest degrees of excellence across multiple categories of competition. Points will be awarded based on students’ finishes in final rounds for each Speech, Debate, and Supplemental event that they enter.

OVERALL TEAM SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS: Overall Team Sweepstakes awards will be presented to the teams with the most combined success in all categories of competition, including novice, varsity, and supplemental events.

OUTSTANDING AUDIENCE MEMBER AWARDS: All competitors, coaches, and judges will be encouraged to nominate people they notice being exceptionally respectful, attentive, encouraging, and responsive audience members throughout the day. One student and one adult will be chosen by the tournament staff from the entries received.

Directions

*The Wildcat Invitational will be held at **DALLASTOWN AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL (700 New School Lane, Dallastown, PA 17313)**. The Middle School is adjacent to Dallastown Area High School on the district's secondary campus. Dallastown is located in southern York County, approximately one hour north of Baltimore, one hour south of Harrisburg, two hours west of Philadelphia, and four hours east of Pittsburgh. Call 717-818-0478 if you need any assistance with directions on your way to the tournament.*

FROM THE NORTH OR THE SOUTH ON INTERSTATE 83: Follow I-83 to Exit 14 (Leader Heights). At the light at the end of the exit ramp, turn onto PA-182 East / Leader Heights Road, following the directional sign toward Dallastown (a LEFT turn if coming from the NORTH; a RIGHT turn if coming from the SOUTH). Stay on 182 East through two more traffic lights; at the third light, turn RIGHT onto PA-74 South / South Queen Street. Get into the LEFT LANE to stay on 74 South when the road splits at the pair of traffic lights by the Sheetz gas station. At the next light, turn RIGHT onto Honey Valley Road, which will wind through a residential development. At the "T" in the road, turn LEFT onto South Franklin Street, and then make the first RIGHT onto Blymire Road. The Dallastown Secondary Campus will be at the top of the hill on your left. The campus entrance is immediately past the football stadium. After entering the campus, proceed straight to the stop sign, passing a student parking lot on your right and the rear corner of the High School on your left. Continuing straight, the Middle School is located just beyond the High School on your left. Enter the school through the main lobby with the words "Dallastown Area Middle School" above the doors.

FROM THE WEST ON U.S. ROUTE 30: Follow US-30 East to I-83. Merge onto 83 South, toward Baltimore, MD. Follow the directions from Interstate 83 above.

FROM THE WEST ON THE PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE (I-76): Take the Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-76) East to Exit 242 (Harrisburg West Shore). Merge onto I-83 South, toward York / Baltimore, MD. Follow the directions from Interstate 83 above.

FROM THE EAST ON U.S. ROUTE 30: Follow US-30 West to the Route 24 / Mt. Zion Road Exit (the third exit after crossing the bridge over the Susquehanna River). At the traffic light at the end of the exit ramp, turn LEFT onto 24 South / Mt. Zion Road, following the directional sign toward Red Lion. Follow 24 South through six traffic lights; during this stretch of road, the street name will change from Mt. Zion Road to Edgewood Road to Cape Horn Road. At the seventh light, just past a plaza with a Weis Market and a McDonalds on your right, turn RIGHT onto Lombard Road. Lombard Road briefly becomes Main Street, and then becomes Lombard Road again. At the stop sign, turn RIGHT onto Broad Street, following the signs to 74 and 214. In one block, turn LEFT at the stop sign onto 214 West / Pleasant Avenue. In about a mile, when 214 / Pleasant Avenue curves to the left, veer to the RIGHT instead onto New School Lane. The campus entrance will be on your right. After entering the campus, the Middle School is on your right. Enter the school through the main lobby with the words "Dallastown Area Middle School" above the doors.

FROM THE EAST ON THE PENNSYLVANIA TURNPIKE (I-76): Take the Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-76) West to Exit 286 (Reading). Follow signs to merge onto US-222 South, toward Lancaster. Stay on 222 for approximately 15 miles, and exit onto US-30 West, toward York. Follow the directions from the east on U.S. Route 30 above.

Lodging Suggestions

For teams wishing to stay overnight in the Dallastown area, the following hotels are located nearby. Please contact the hotels directly for information about rates and availability.

Country Inn & Suites

245 St. Charles Way
York, PA 17402
717-747-5833
www.countryinns.com/yorkpa
(3.5 miles away)

Holiday Inn Express

140 Leader Heights Road
York, PA 17403
717-741-5923
www.hiexpress.com
(4 miles away)

Hampton Inn

1550 Mount Zion Road
York, PA 17402
717-840-1500
www.hamptoninn.com
(7.5 miles away)

Quality Inn & Suites

2600 East Market Street
York, PA 17402
717-755-1966
www.choicehotels.com
(6 miles away)